

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed September 9, 2008, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-17 were previously pending in this application. By this amendment, Applicant is canceling claim 14 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1, 7 and 8 have been amended. New claims 18-20 have been added. As a result, claims 1-13 and 15-20 are pending for examination with claims 1, 7 and 8 being independent. No new matter has been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103. I

The Office Action rejected independent claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yamashita, U.S. Patent No. 6,467,083 ("Yamashita") in view of Trauben, U.S. Patent No. 5,594,864 ("Trauben"). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

On page 12, the Office Action indicates that "an amendment stating that a given message is stored and outputted via an output terminal simultaneously would overcome the current rejections."

Claim 8 has been amended to recite *modifying a state of an output terminal associated with an instruction type from the sequence of instructions substantially simultaneously with storing in the buffer memory, at a storage time, a digital message of a type corresponding to the instruction type, wherein the output terminal associated with the instruction type is from a plurality of output terminals connected to an external analysis tool, with each output terminal from the plurality of output terminals being associated with an instruction type from the sequence of instructions* (emphasis added). None of the cited reference teaches or suggests this limitation.

In view of the above, claim 8 patentably distinguishes over Yamashita and Trauben, either alone or in combination.

Claim 9 depends from claim 8 and is allowable for at least the same reasons.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 8 and 9 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 3, 5-7, 11-14 and 16-17 (including independent claims 1 and 7) under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yamashita, in view of Trauben, and in view of Edwards, U.S. Patent No. 6,918,065 ("Edwards"). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the message calculation means *modifies a state of the at least one output terminal substantially simultaneously with storing* in the buffer memory, at a storage time, a digital message of a type corresponding to the instruction type associated with the at least one output terminal to indicate to the external analysis tool the storage time (emphasis added). Similarly, claim 7 has been amended to recite the message calculation means *modifies a state of the output terminal substantially simultaneously with storing*, at a storage time, a digital message of a type corresponding to the instruction type in the buffer memory to indicate to the external analysis tool the storage time (emphasis added). None of the cited reference teaches or suggests this limitation.

In view of the above, independent claims 1 and 8 patentably distinguish over Yamashita, Trauben, and Edwards, either alone or in combination.

Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claims 10-13 and 15-17 depend from claim 7 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-7, 10-13, and 15-17 is respectfully requested.

New Claims

New claims 18-20 have been added to further define Applicant's contribution to the art.

Claims 18 and 19 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 20 depends from claim 8 and is allowable for at least the same reasons.

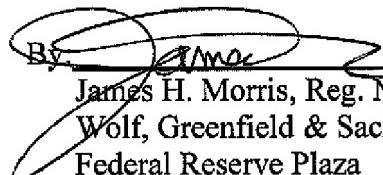
CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 23/2825, under Docket No. S1022.81223US00.

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Respectfully submitted,

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